

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 02766 121601Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 INR-10 /035 W
-----083918 121617Z /47

O 121455Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1211
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2766

ICA FOR IOP/M, IAA,IBS

DEPT FOR AF/S

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: RSA PRESS ON NAMIBIA: MAY 12

SUMMARY: SAG FM BOTHA REPORTED ANGERED BY STATE DEPT. VERDICT
AND WARNING RE ANGOLA RAID. AFRIKAANS PAPER DEFENDS SAG
ACTON, POINTS FINGER AT TERROR TACTICS OF SWAPO. END. SUMMARY.

1. JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH OPPOSITION THE STAR MAY 12 FRONT PAGE
HEADLINE: "WEST ANGERS PIK." REPORT SAID SAG FM PIK BOTHA"
REACTED SHARPLY, TODAY TO USG "WARNING" AGAINST REPETITION
OF ANGOLA RAID. BOTHA QUOTED SAYING: "I FIND IT STRANGE THAT
SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER SHOULD FIND RSA'S TIMING OF THE RAID
UNFORTUNATE? BU THAT HE DOES NOT FIND IT UNFORTUNATE THAT SWAPO
TERRORISTS ARE KILLING INNOCENT CIVILIANS IN SWA. THE FIVE
WESTERN NATIONS KNOW VERY WELL THAT SWAPO IS UP TO IN THE
TERRITORY. THEY ALL HAVE INTELLIGENCE SERVICES. THEY MUST BE IN
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POSSESSION OF THE FACTS. THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE FIVE WESTERN
GOVTS TO INFORM THE SAG WHETHER THEY SUPPORT SWAPO TERRORISM AND
WHETHER THEY REJECT ANY ACTION ON THE PART OF THE SAG TO
END TERRORISM."

2. SAME REPORTED ADDED, " AS IT IS, LAST WEEK'S RAID HAS CAUSED
MORE DAMAGE TO THE WESTERN-SPONSORED SETTLEMENT INITIATIVE THAN

HAS BEEN PUBLICLY ADMITTED AND OFFICIALS APPEAR TO BELIEVE
ANY FURTHER MILITARY ACTION COULD FINALLY TORPEDO THE ENTIRE
EXERCISE."

3. LATE REPORT SAME PAPER SAID NAMIBIA NATIONAL FRONT TODAY
ISSUED " FIRST MAJOR CONDEMNATION FROM WITHIN SWA OF THE
ANGOLA RAID."

4. CAPE TOWN AFRIKAANS (PRO-SAG) DIE BURGER MAY 12 SAID IN
EDITORIAL THAT SAM NUJOMA " HAS CHARACTERIZED THE S.A. ACTION
AS COLD-BLOODED MURDER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THIS WAS TO BE
ANTICIPATED. IT IS LIKE ITALIAN RED BRIGADIER RENATO CURCIO
DESCRIBING MORO'S MURDER AS " AN EXEMPLARY DEED OF HUMANITARIANISM."
NOW WE HEAR WASHINGTON REPORTS THAT THE CARTER ADMIN IS CONCERNED
ABOUT U.S. ABILITY TO WITHSTAND ACTS OF TERRORISM. THEY SHOULD
KNOW THAT THEY CANNOT BEGIN TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT UNTIL
THEY ARE PREPARED TO CONDEMN ALL ACTS OF TERROR, NO MATTER
WHO COMMITS THE TERROR OR WHO THE VICTIM MAY BE."
HUGHES

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ANGOLA RAID. AFRIKAANS PAPER DEFEND
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